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The Arts

Soviet Publishing Accord

By Hollie I. West

The Soviet Copyright Agency yesterday announced the signing of agreements with an American publisher giving the Russians the option to publish 14 scientific and technical works by American authors.

The accord means that these authors and their publisher will be paid for copyright privileges. In the past the Soviets did not make such guarantees.

Speaking at a news conference at the Soviet embassy, Boris Pankin, head of the agency, said the agreements would give "added momentum to the exchange of cultural values" between the United States and Soviet Union.

The American publisher, John Wiley and Sons Inc., also reached agreement with the Soviets to publish Russian scientific and technical works in this country.

Because of their technical nature, most- of the books would not interest laymen, according to Soviet and American spokesmen. Two of the American titles under option are "Zeolit Molecular Sieves: Structure, Chemistry and Use" by D.W. Breck and "The Difffusion and Drift of Electrons and Gases" by L.G. Huxley and R.W. Crompton.

The accord between the publisher and agency was signed Tuesday in New York. On the same day the Soviets signed a royalties agreement with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), the organization of musicians, lyricists and their publishers.

Pankin said a similar agreement would be signed next week with Broadcast Music Inc. (B.M.I.), an or-

ganization like ASCAP but younger and consisting of more contemporary musicians and lyricists.

He also said he foresees pacts with other publishers—McGraw-Hill, Doubleday and Macmillan. Negotiations are almost complete, Pankin added, for securing the option to publish Kurt Vonnegut's "Breakfast of Champions."

The agency chief noted that the delegation he heads also will hold negotiations this week with the United States Copyright Office and the Association of American Publishers. The negotiations are a continuation of talks held in the Soviet Union.

Pankin called the agreements part of the spirit of detente between the two countries. "We intend to follow to the letter the obligations that we have taken under the agreements, and we expect the same from our American partners," he said.